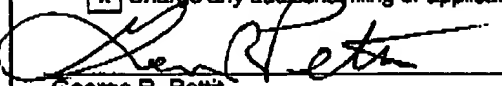
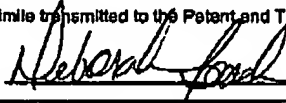


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|---|---|---|-----------------------------------|---------|---------------|
| AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER | | | Docket No. 20136-00305-US | | |
| Application No. 09/588,351-Conf. #8116 | Filing Date June 7, 2000 | Examiner J. Fenty | Art Unit 2815 | | |
| Applicant(s): Roy C. (deceased), Flaker, et al. | | | | | |
| Invention: CIRCUIT AND METHODS TO IMPROVE THE OPERATION OF SOI DEVICES | | | | | |
| TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS | | | | | |
| Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below. | | | | | |
| CLAIMS AS AMENDED | | | | | |
| | Claims Remaining After Amendment | Highest Number Previously Paid | Number Extra Claims Present | Rate | |
| Total Claims | 9 | - 20 = | 0 | x 18.00 | 0.00 |
| Independent Claims | 4 | - 3 = | 0 | x 86.00 | 0.00 |
| Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | | |
| Other fee (please specify): Extension for response within first month | | | | | 110.00 |
| TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT: | | | | | 110.00 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large Entity <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for this amendment. | | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. <u>22-0185</u> in the amount of \$ <u>110.00</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. | | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. <u>22-0185</u> as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. | | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayment. | | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17. | | | | | |
|  George R. Pettit Attorney Reg. No.: 27,369 CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP 1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800 Washington, DC 20036-3425 (202) 331-7111 | | | Dated: <u>11/26/03</u> | | |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile no. (703) 872-8318, on the date shown below. Dated: <u>11/26/03</u> Signature:  (Deborah A. Beach) | | | | | |

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile no. (703) 872-9318, on the date shown below.

Dated: 11/26/03

Signature:

(Deborah A. Beach)

Docket No.: 20136-00305-US
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Roy C. (deceased), Flaker, et al.

Application No.: 09/588,351

Art Unit: 2815

Filed: June 7, 2000

Examiner: J. Fenty

For: CIRCUIT AND METHODS TO IMPROVE
THE OPERATION OF SOI DEVICESRECEIVED
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OFFICIAL

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTIONCommissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated August 15, 2003 (Paper No. 20), favorable reconsideration of the application is requested.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 6-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Okumura et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,892,260), is requested. The present invention as exemplified by rejected claims 6-14 provides a method for enhancing the performance of a circuit having at least one SOI device. The method includes providing a pulse discharge circuit to discharge any accumulated potential on a body of the SOI device before accessing the SOI device.

The cited reference to Okumura et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,892,260) describes an SOI type semiconductor device which changes the threshold voltage of the device in a stand-by mode. The disclosed system includes a bias voltage generating circuit, shown generally in Fig. 4, which applies a voltage potential to the back gates of a SOI device. In this way, the value of the threshold voltage can be reduced in the stand-by mode.

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The cited references fails to disclose any structure for discharging the voltage potential on the body of an SOI device. In accordance with the present invention, there is a circuit to dissipate the electric charge accumulated on the body of the SOI device before accessing the device. In accordance with claim 9, the body is selectively grounded, an in the case of claim 11, a pulse discharge circuit has a pulse generator to discharge any accumulated potential on the body prior to accessing the SOI devices.

As the references fails to disclose or suggest the structure of the rejected claims, it is not seen how it can anticipate the claims.

The rejection under the traditionally created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting is noted. The undersigned will consider filing a Terminal Disclaimer upon indication of allowable subject matter in the application. However, it is noted that the claims of Flaker et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,160,292) are not rendered obvious by the combination of Okumura et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,892,260). Okumura et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,892,260) fails to disclose a pulse generator, or any circuit for dissipating charge on the body of a semiconductor device as is presently claimed. Accordingly, the combination of Okumura et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,892,260) with the claims of Flaker et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,160,292) cannot yield or suggest this subject matter.

In view of the foregoing, favorable reconsideration of the application is requested.

Application No.: 09/588,351

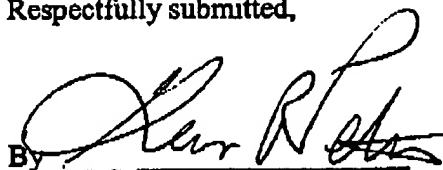
Docket No.: 20136-00305-US

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency with the filing of this paper to our Deposit Account No. 09-0458, under Order No. 20136-00305-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated:

11/26/03

Respectfully submitted,



By
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Washington, DC 20036-3425
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